

Oct. 11/1873.

6v

Dear Mr. Potter - ~~At the time your letter~~
~~was written,~~ I am not to be in N. Y. next
week, & therefore shall not be able to attend the
Con. of the F. L. A.; but accept my thanks for
your letter, inviting me to be present, & to participate
in the proceedings.

The longer I live, the more I see the
importance of asserting the right of free thought,
free inquiry, & free speech, ^{as against} ~~in matters of~~ religious
intolerance and theological dogmatism, ecclesi-
astical authority and priestly infallibility.
From the standpoint of the R. C., there can be
no question that she is logically consistent in brand-
ing as heretics those who insist upon doing their
own thinking, taking nothing upon trust, proving all things,
acting in accordance with their highest convictions,
and maintaining their individuality & independence
in pursuit of religious truth. But how there
can be any heretics ~~where every one~~ ^{to} is among
these dissenters, in consequence of any dis-
^{band} But in proportion as it is deemed dangerous,
~~truth & right~~ or stigmatized as irreverent,
is the evidence of religious corruption &
prevailing cowardice.

The question is not how far we
are in agreement or at variance in our
Biblical speculation interpretation or the-
ological

New York Oct 6th 1878

William Lloyd Garrison.

Dear Sir:

Would
you be kind enough to
favor me with a list
of the members of the Mas-
sachusetts, afterwards New
England Anti-Slavery Society.
I am, dear sir

Your obt servant
M. W. Benjamin

80 & 82 Leonard St
New York.